



EVA TURNER

. . . . *Soprano*

Royal Opera House, Covent Garden
La Scala, Milan, and Principal Opera
Houses in Europe and North and South America

Biography

IT would be commonplace to say that Miss Eva Turner **won fame in a single night.** Her story is one of indomitable pluck and supreme confidence in her own ability to conquer the world of song. Her success is no accident. It is the result of long and patient study, commencing as a painstaking singer of minor rôles, determined to climb to the heights, and, by dint of perseverance, at last reaching in her own country a point beyond which progress then seemed impossible.

Undaunted, she boldly assailed the operatic centre of the world and, without influence to aid her, gradually mounted to a point when recognition was accorded to her as one entitled to the highest plaudits of the greatest opera-loving people in the world—Italy.

Thence the outer world lay open to her and, finally, the London which had, a few years before, seemed inhospitable and inaccessible, melted to her charm and hailed her a new **queen of grand opera.**

Miss Eva Turner, who was born in Oldham, was brought up in Bristol. At a very early age she was attracted by the performances of the Carl Rosa Opera Company at Bristol, and it was during one of these performances that she became fired with the ambition to become an operatic star. Her career settled, she devoted all her energies and talent upon this object.

Her first musical education of any note was obtained at the Royal Academy of Music, where she was trained in singing by Edgardo Levy and finally by Professor Richards-Broad, the famous lecturer and vocal pedagogue. In addition to her brilliant singing accomplishments she was a very prominent student in other branches of music at the Academy, which later conferred upon her both the L.R.A.M. and F.R.A.M. degrees.

After leaving this institution she joined the chorus of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, and it was not long before her great ability was recognized. She was soon singing all the leading rôles in the Carl Rosa repertoire, and singing with great success.

This, however, was not the limit of Miss Turner's ambitions. She went to Italy, and soon became one of the most celebrated singers in that musical and critical country.

Among her greatest successes are "Aida," "Turandot," "Fidelio," and "Cavalleria Rusticana." In the great "Turandot" rôle, one of the most exacting ever written, **she has no superior.** Alfano, who completed Puccini's work in this opera, upon hearing Miss Turner's wonderful singing and interpretation, asked to be specially introduced to her to express his appreciation and gratitude. "In my opinion," said Alfano, "Turner is the perfect 'Turandot.'"

At La Scala, Milan, she has proved herself more than equal to the great traditions of this world-renowned institution.

All the chief opera houses of Italy and Germany have **acclaimed her wonderful voice.** The U.S.A. recognized the exceptional in her singing, and paid her the homage accorded to only the world's greatest sopranos. From Vienna to Lisbon, Copenhagen to Athens, has she been extolled.

North and South America have endorsed the wealth of praise so lavishly bestowed everywhere, especially at the Colonne, Buenos Aires, which is the Covent Garden of South America, and admitted to be one of the world's finest opera houses. Her **success there was phenomenal.** At Rio de Janeiro, San Paulo and the Venezuelan cities she won equal recognition.

Press Opinions

Sunday Times, London

MISS EVA TURNER—this English singer has been acclaimed in every country where opera is understood. No one who heard her "Turandot" is ever likely to forget the exceptional impression made by a voice lovely in its purity and power and by acting exactly suited to the aloofness of Puccini's princess.

Daily Telegraph, London

Such singing as hers has not been heard since the days of Mme. Destinova—forceful, lyrical, giving to each phrase, to each note, just the warmth, the appeal it needs. Her performance was admirable and the audience which filled the house was not slow to acknowledge it.

Daily Mail, London

MISS EVA TURNER, who appeared in the leading rôle of Puccini's "Turandot" at Covent Garden last night took 10 curtains after the first act and created a record for the Royal Opera House by receiving 18 at the conclusion of the performance.

Liverpool Echo

MISS TURNER walked away with "Der Freischütz." Since she appeared here previously she has improved out of all knowledge and now that superb voice is controlled to the last fraction.

Evening News, London

EVA TURNER is undoubtedly the Turandot of our time. What we ask of a Turandot is what Puccini asked when he wrote her music. High notes and high phrases that few dramatic sopranos could tackle at all must be beautiful in colour and fierce in attack; and they must come without a struggle, for a Turandot ill at ease with her music is a Turandot defeated long before the challenger guesses her riddles. The situation was perfectly mastered. Miss Turner sang brilliantly and well deserved the ovations that were showered upon her.

Evening News, London

Weber's "Ocean, Thou Mighty Monster" is a terror to all but first-rate singers—indeed, one can think of no more searching test for a dramatic soprano. MISS TURNER sailed across it in triumph.

The Times, London

In Verdi's "Requiem" MISS TURNER's singing was the most satisfactory feature of the whole performance. Her experience of opera in Italy proved invaluable in this work. Her glorious voice rang out splendidly in the climaxes but such things in "Lacrymosa" were more than mere exhibitions of vocal powers and her quiet solo in the "Libera me" was as it should be, the loveliest moment of the evening.

Birmingham Post

There was the Brünnhilde of EVA TURNER who blotted out all memories of other exponents. It is impossible to recollect anyone who ever rode over all the immense technical difficulties of the "Siegfried" portion of this epic woman's part of Wagner's with such absolute assurance and at the same time, respected the composer's intentions so conscientiously.

MISS TURNER's famous high notes of such beautiful quality, rang out magnificently and indefatigably, but she can also sing softly with all sorts of inflexions, touching, dignified or impassioned. She is a very great artist.

The Star, London

Compliments have been paid to MISS EVA TURNER by members of the Italian Royal Family and Toscanini and other maestros have acclaimed "Turner" as one of the most brilliant living operatic sopranos. Last night her glorious voice was heard by our own King and Queen.

Scotsman

Of all the British singers who have made reputations in opera abroad MISS TURNER has perhaps the greatest success. She has appeared in most of the leading opera houses of the Continent, as also in North and South America.

British Representative :
HAROLD HOLT,
3 Clifford Street,
Bond Street,
LONDON, W.1.

Press Opinions

Liverpool Echo

MISS TURNER sang "Isolda" like the great dramatic soprano we know her to be. The audience stayed behind for 30 minutes to cheer and cheer again. That simple fact indicates, does it not, that MISS TURNER has scored a terrific success.

Daily Express, London

MISS EVA TURNER drew more people to Covent Garden Opera House last night than any other British artist since the days of Melba. Gallery stools are filled to capacity by 9.30 a.m. the day she sings.

Daily Telegraph, London

"Der Freischütz," unheard at Covent Garden for a generation, was revived last night and conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham. EVA TURNER sang Agatha and sang it as very few girls, German or other, could do. Her performance of "Leise, Leise," was one of the triumphs of her career.

Music Lover, London

TURIN—Success of British Singer.—During the past month, the British prima donna EVA

TURNER has drawn crowded audiences to the Teatro Regio by her wonderful singing as Sieglinde in "Die Walküre" under Max von Schillings, of the Berlin State Opera. That the house has been sold out long before the advertised date of each Walküre performance is a remarkable tribute to the British singer, who is a prime favourite with opera audiences throughout Italy.

Evening News, London

I do not think that there is a prima donna in the world who could surpass MISS TURNER's interpretation of that really mighty solo from Weber's "Oberon," "Ocean, Thou Mighty Monster." It was intensely thrilling and MISS TURNER's voice was a revelation.

The Times, London

In last night's performance of "Aida" at Covent Garden Opera House the title part was sung by MISS EVA TURNER, who is equipped with every quality of voice and style requisite for a great performance. Her voice can top any climax in the ensembles with glorious tone and at the other end of the dynamic scale she can produce a silvery mezzo-voce and throughout its range her voice retains its astonishing freshness.

Press Opinions from America

Daily News, Los Angeles. June, 1938.

The title rôle of "Aida" was sung by EVA TURNER, soprano of Covent Garden, London. Her ability to carry assigned scale variations, coupled with dramatic inflections, made her performance outstanding. Her solo aria, "Oh! Cieli Azzuri" at the beginning of third act was a marvellous example of her vocal achievement.

Los Angeles Examiner. June, 1938.

Of the singers, first honours went to the English Soprano—EVA TURNER, in the rôle of "Aida." Her voice is high and powerful, with great dramatic quality . . . and her every aria and ensemble proved her an artist of unqualified ability.

Evening News, Los Angeles. June, 1938.

EVA TURNER, cast in the title rôle, was heard here for the first time. Certainly her tones are kind to the ear. Pure, warm and well rounded by unusually good enunciation. Adding to this a sincere feeling for the rôle, brought her performance up to a high level.